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Howard Langfitt Farm Families of the Week

2-27-1959

Sisco, Marvin family television script

Howard Langfitt

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W L B T

CONTINUITY

[Sisco, Marvie]

FOR Fam Family of the Week

DATE Fri. Feb. 27, 1959

BY Howard Langfitt

TIME 12:25-1:00 p.m.

VIDEO

AUDIO

CAMERA ON LANGFITT

SLIDE FARM-1
MAILBOX

SLIDE FARM-24
FAMILY

I WANT TO SAY IN THE VERY BEGINNING THAT I AM DEEPLY GRATEFUL TO LINCOLN COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENT, TRAVIS TADLOCK AND HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENT, MISS SARAH JANE CRAIG, FOR THEIR VERY WONDERFUL HELP IN SELECTING THE FAMILY WHICH WE SALUTE TODAY AND FOR GOING WITH ME TO THEIR FARM TO HELP ME OBTAIN THE STORY WHICH I AM NOW GOING TO TELL. THIS IS THE STORY OF MR. AND MRS. MARVIE SISCO AND THEIR TWO CHILDREN, SEVEN YEAR OLD SYLVIA AND FIVE YEAR OLD JERRY, WHO LIVE 13 MILES SOUTHWEST OF BROOKHAVEN...JUST FOUR MILES SOUTH OF THE WEST LINCOLN SCHOOL. MARVIE SISCO WAS BORN ABOUT FIFTEEN MILES AWAY IN FRANKLIN COUNTY AND MOVED TO A FARM ADJOINING THE ONE HE NOW OWNS WHEN HE WAS 12 YEARS OLD. MRS. SISCO GREW UP ON A FARM ABOUT A HALF MILE FROM WEST LINCOLN SCHOOL. THEY MET AT VARIOUS AFFAIRS IN THE COMMUNITY AND WERE MARRIED IN SEPTEMBER OF 1949. THEY PURCHASED 80 ACRES OF THEIR PRESENT 150 ACRE FARM ABOUT A MONTH AFTER THEY WERE MARRIED. IN 1945, AFTER THREE YEARS IN THE SERVICE OF HIS COUNTRY MARVIE BEGAN FARMING FOR HIMSELF ON 25 ACRES OF RENTED ROW CROP LAND. HE WAS RENTING LAND WHEN THEY MARRIED IN 1949. AT THAT TIME HE WAS RAISING COTTON, CORN AND BEEF

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FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO	AUDIO
<p>SLIDE <u>FARM-2</u> HOUSE</p>	<p>CATTLE AND WAS FARMING WITH A MULE. HE HAD ONE MULE, TEN HEAD OF CATTLE, TEN ACRES OF COTTON AND THE REST IN CORN. COTTON, CORN AND BEEF WERE ESSENTIALLY HIS PROGRAM UNTIL SIX YEARS AGO WHEN HE CHANGED OVER TO DAIRYING. WHEN THEY MOVE TO THIS LAND THIS HOUSE, OR, I GUESS I SHOULD SA PART OF IT, WAS THE ONLY BUILDING ON THE LAND.</p>
<p>SLIDE <u>FARM-3</u> HOUSE</p>	<p>THE LAND HE HAD BOUGHT WAS WORN OUT, ERODED, THROWN OUT LAND THAT HAD BEEN PATCH FARMED TO DEATH AND THERE WAS HARDLY A FENCE ON THE PLACE. THE FIRST THING THEY DID WAS BUILD ON TO THE HOUSE. THEN LAST SUMMER THEY PUT ON THIS FRONT PORCH AND THE EXTENSION YOU SEE ON THE BACK OF THE HOUSE AND A NEW ROOF. THEY ARE PRESENTLY IN THE PROCESS OF CONVERTING WHAT WAS ONCE AN OLD PORCH INTO A LIVING ROOM, DINING ROOM COMBINATIO</p>
<p>SLIDE <u>FARM-4</u> CATTLE</p>	<p>AS I SAID, SIX YEARS AGO THEY CHANGED OVER TO A DAIRY PROGRAM. THEY CAME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THEY NEEDED MORE CASH THAN THEIR FARM OPERATION WAS BRINGING IN AT THAT TIME AND AFTER CHECKING INTO THE POSSIBILITES OF DAIRYING IN THEIR FARM OPERATION THEY MADE THE SWITCH. THEY KEPT WHAT BEEF CATTLE WERE GOOD MILK PRODUCERS AND</p>
<p>SLIDE <u>FARM-5</u></p>	<p>TRADED THE REST FOR DAIRY ANIMALS AND STARTED OU PRODUCING MANUFACTURING MILK. WHEN THEY STARTED MILKING THEY HAD TEN HEAD. TODAY THEY HAVE</p>

W L B T

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VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-6
DAIRY BARN

SLIDE FARM-7
CATTLE IN BARN

SLIDE FARM-8
CATTLE IN BARN

60 HEAD OF CATTLE....39 OF THEM MILK COWS...AND ARE PRESENTLY MILKING 25 HEAD. THEY ARE GRADE JERSEY AND HOLSTEIN CATTLE AND PRIMARILY MARVIE SISCO USES ARTIFICIAL BREEDING IN HIS PROGRAM. FOR THREE YEARS OF THEIR DAIRY EXPERIENCE THEY SOLD MANUFACTURING MILK BUT IN 1956 THEY SUDDENLY FACED THE LOSS OF THEIR MANUFACTURING MILK MARKET AND HAD TO DECIDE WHETHER TO QUIT MILKING COWS OR GO INTO A GRADE "A" PROGRAM. AFTER MUCH THOUGHT THEY DECIDED THAT THEIR FUTURE STILL LAY WITH A GOOD DAIRY PROGRAM SO THEY WENT TO WORK AND BUILT THIS GRADE "A" DAIRY BARN AND CHANGED THEIR OPERATION TO A GRADE "A" DAIRY PROGRAM. THE WHOLE SISCO FAMILY WORKS IN THIS DAIRY PROGRAM, INCLUDING SEVEN YEAR OLD SYLVIA AND FIVE YEAR OLD JERRY. THOUGH THE SISCO'S HAVE A GRADE HERD THEY CULL IT CLOSE AND SAVE THEIR BEST HEIFERS FOR HERD REPLACEMENT. THEY CALFHOOD VACCINATE AND THEIR HERD IS TB AND BANGS TESTED. THEIR HERD AVERAGE IS ABOUT 6,000 POUNDS OF MILK PER COW PER YEAR AND THEY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO INCREASE IT BY 20% IN THE PAST THREE YEARS THROUGH IMPROVED BREEDING, FEEDING AND MANAGEMENT. MILKING IS DONE WITH TWO PORTABLE MILKERS AND THE FLANKS AND UDDERS OF EACH COW ARE THOROUGHLY WASHED AND DISINFECTED BEFORE MILKING TO ASSURE

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DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO	AUDIO
<p>SLIDE <u>FARM-9</u> <u>COOLER</u></p>	<p>TOP QUALITY MILK WITH A LOW BACTERIA COUNTX. AFTER EACH MILKING THE MILK IS PUT IN TEN GALLON CANS AND HELD IN THIS MODERN ELECTRIC COOLER UNTIL IT IS PICKED UP. THEY GET A 95% CALF CROP AND ALL NON PRODUCERS OR LOW PRODUCERS ARE CULLED OUT SO THEIR EFFORTS ARE CONCENTRATED ONLY ON</p>
<p>SLIDE <u>FARM-10</u> <u>TWO MEN</u></p>	<p>THEIR BEST PRODUCERS. THE MILK FROM EACH COW IS WEIGHED AFTER EACH MILKING AND AS MARVIE EXPLAIN HERE TO COUNTY AGENT TRAVIS TADLOCK, IN THIS WAY HE KNOWS WHAT COWS ARE PRODUCING AND WHICH ARE NOT AND CAN EASILY CHECK TO FIND OUT WHY A COW HAS DROPPED OFF IN MILK PRODUCTION. THIS ALSO ENABLES HIM TO FEED HIS COWS ACCORDING TO THEIR PRODUCTION. THE HIGH PRODUCERS GET ALL THEY WANT AND THE OTHERS GET WHAT HE WANTS THEM TO</p>
<p>SLIDE <u>FARM-11</u> <u>CORN CRIB</u></p>	<p>HAVE. HE FEEDS THE COWS IN THE BARN HOME GROWN GRAIN AND A SUPPLEMENT WHICH HE MAKES UP INTO A 16% DAIRY RATION. MARVIE PLANTS 17 ACRES IN CORN. HE PLANTS A HYBRID AND IT YIELDS AN AVERAGE OF 80 BUSHELS TO THE ACRE. HE FEEDS IT ALL ON THE FARM. IN THE PAST MARVIE HAS BEEN BALING SOME SOYBEAN HAY. HE THINKS THIS YEAR DUE TO THE SCARCITY OF PROTEIN HE MAY PLANT 7 ACRES TO COMBINE TO GET THE PROTEIN FOR HIS DAIRY RATION.</p>
<p>SLIDE <u>FARM-12</u></p>	<p>PERMANENT PASTURE CONSISTS OF 110 ACRES IN DALLI AND BERMUDA GRASS, BAHIA GRASS AND CRIMSON</p>

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-13
PASTURE

CLOVER. 65 ACRES OF IT IS IMPROVED PASTURE AND THE REST NATIVE GRASSES. THE FIRST THING MARVIE SISCO HAD TO DO WHEN HE BOUGHT THIS LAND WAS BUILD THE FERTILITY. HE BROKE IT UP FOR CULTIVATION FIRST BECAUSE HE SAYS HE COULD GET THE REXX FERTILIZER TO IT FASTER THAT WAY. THEN HE PUT INTO GOOD PASTURE. HE FERTILIZES HEAVY AND CLIP HIS PASTURES FOR WEED CONTROL. I DON'T KNOW HOW WELL THIS PICTURE OF HIS OATS AND RYE GRASS WILL SHOW IT BUT RIGHT BETWEEN MARVIE AND MR. TADLOCK WHERE TRAVIS IS POINTING, IS THE POINT WHERE MARVIE RAN OUT OF LIME. I KNOW TO STAND IN THIS FIELD YOU CAN SURE SEE THE DIFFERENCE IN COLOR AND GROWTH. TEMPORARY GRAZING CONSISTS OF 40 ACRES IN OATS, RYE GRASS AND CRIMSON CLOVER. ON THE FIRST OF MARCH HE TAKES THE CATTLE OFF OF HALF THE OATS WHICH HE NITRATES AND LATER CUTS FOR HAY AND COMBINES FOR HIS SEED. THE REST ARE GRAZED COMPLETELY DOWN. EACH YEAR MARVIE PUTS UP ABOUT A THOUSAND BALES OF HAY, INCLUDING CLOVER, SORGHUM AND SOYBEAN HAY. BY THE WAY, THOSE OATS WE WERE JUST LOOKING AT HAD BEEN GRAZED SINCE SEPTEMBER 27TH. MARVIE BUILT THIS HAY BARN IN 1951 AND LAST FALL HE FENCED IN ALL THE LOTS AROUND THE BUILDINGS AS YOU SEE HERE.

SLIDE FARM-14
HAY BARN

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-15
POND

SLIDE FARM-16
MACHINE SHED

SLIDE FARM-17
TIMBER

SLIDE FARM-18
TIMBER

SLIDE FARM-19
CANNING

TODAY ALL OF HIS LAND IS FENCED AND CROSS FENCED. HE HAS 13 PASTURE AREAS SO HE CAN PROPERLY ROTATE HIS GRAZING TO PREVENT OVERGRAZING. HE HAS THREE STOCK PONDS SIMILAR TO THIS ONE. THEY ARE SO CONSTRUCTED THAT THE THREE WILL SERVE SIX DIFFERENT PASTURES AREAS WITH FENCING THROUGH THE MIDDLE OF THE POND. AS MARVIE HAS BECOME MORE AND MORE MECHANIZED HE HAS REALIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF PROTECTING HIS VALUABLE MACHINERY INVESTMENT SO HE BUILT THIS MACHINE SHED WHERE HE COULD KEEP IT UNDER SHELTER WHEN NOT IN USE. MARVIE HAS TRIED TO GET ALL HIS LAND INTO THE CROP FOR WHICH IT IS BEST SUITED. HE HAS 30 ACRES BEST SUITED TO TIMBER AND IT'S IN TIMBER. HE HAS ALSO PLANTED SOME TIMBER WINDBREAKS FOR HIS CATTLE. HE THINS AND WEEDS HIS TIMBER, CUTTING OUT AND POISONING THE UNDESIRABLE HARD WOODS THAT RESTRICT THE GROWTH OF HIS FAST GROWING PINE TIMBER. IN THE FOREGROUND OF THIS PICTURE YOU CAN SEE THE RESULTS OF SOME OF THAT WORK. THOUGH MRS. SISCO WORKS OUTSIDE RIGHT ALONGSIDE HER HUSBAND, SHE ALSO CARRIES OUT AN EXCELLENT HOMEMAKING PROGRAM. FROM THEIR ACRE OF YEAR ROUND GARDEN SHE CANS 500 JARS OF FOOD EACH YEAR AND SHE'S TEACHING DAUGHTER SYLVIA

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DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-20
KITCHENSLIDE FARM-21
BOY IN HAYLOFTSLIDE FARM-22
PEOPLESLIDE FARM-23
CHURCH

THE ART OF FOOD PRESERVATION. THE SISCO FAMILY DOESN'T ADD ANYTHING UNTIL THEY CAN AFFORD TO PAY FOR IT AND SO THEY HAVEN'T ADDED A HOME FREEZER YET, AND THOUGH THAT MAKES HER HOUSE WORK HARDER MRS. SISCO SEES TO IT THAT THE FAMILY HAS PLENTY OF FOOD PRESERVED FOR THEIR YEAR ROUND NEEDS. SHE LOVES TO COOK AND SHE'S A GOOD ONE. FROM HER KITCHEN YOU CAN SEE THE WORK THEY ARE DOING ON THEIR COMBINATION DINING ROOM-LIVING ROOM. BY THE WAY, THEY DO THAT WORK THEMSELVES. THE SISCO'S ALSO KEEP ABOUT 25 LAYING HENS FOR FAMILY USE AND ONE OF JERRY'S JOBS IS TO GATHER THE EGGS EVERY DAY. FROM THE WAY HE WENT ABOUT IT I THINK IT'S A JOB HE REALLY ENJOYS. MARVIE SISCO WORKS CLOSE WITH HIS COUNTY AGENT AND TRIES TO FOLLOW HIS RECOMMENDATIONS. SHOWN IN THIS PICTURE, LEFT TO RIGHT, ARE THEIR PASTOR, REV. WILSON WINSTEAD, MARVIE AND MRS. SISCO, JERRY, COUNTY AGENT TRAVIS TADLOCK AND HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENT, SARAH JANE CRAIG AND SYLVIA SISCO. REV. WINSTEAD SAYS THIS FAMILY IS FAITHFUL IN ALL WAYS. THEY BELONG TO THE GUM GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH WHERE MARVIE TEACHES THE JUNIOR BOYS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS AND MRS. SISCO IS ASSISTANT TEACHER FOR THE JUNIOR GIRLS CLASS. MARVIE IS

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BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

CAMERA ON FAMILY

ALSO GROUP CAPTAIN FOR HIS TRAINING UNION AND COUNSELOR OF THE YOUNG MEN'S BROTHERHOOD. MR. AND MRS. SISCO BELONG TO THE LINCOLN COUNTY FARM BUREAU AND THE WEST LINCOLN SCHOOL P.T.A. MARVIE IS AN F.H.A. COUNTY COMMITTEEMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE LINCOLN COUNTY DAIRY DAY ~~EXERCISE~~ CELEBRATION. AS TRAVIS TADLOCK POINTED OUT TO ME, IT'S JUST HARD TO REALIZE THE TREMENDOUS ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THIS YOUNG FAMILY AND THEY HAVE BEEN A REAL INSPIRATION TO YOUNG FARMERS IN THEIR AREA. I COULD TALK ON AT CONSIDERABLE LENGTH BUT I WANT YOU TO MEET THEM NOW AND HEAR FROM THEM OF SOME OF THEIR HARDSHIPS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HOPES FOR THE FUTURE.

1. MARVIE, WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR BIGGEST JOB?
2. WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO DO IN THE FUTURE WITH YOUR DAIRY PROGRAM?
3. WHAT ADVICE COULD YOU GIVE A YOUNG DAIRYMAN TRYING TO GET STARTED?
4. MRS SISCO, WHAT HAS HELPED YOU MOST IN YOUR HOMEMAKING PROGRAM?
5. IF YOU HAD A CHOICE WOULD YOU TRADE YOUR FARM LIFE FOR ANOTHER?
6. WOULD YOU RECOMMEND THE OCCUPATION OF FARM WIFE TO YOUR DAUGHTER?